

LOS ANGELES, CA
YOUTH OPPORTUNITY MOVEMENT
2001-2002 Grant: **\$22 Million**

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
2130 East First Street, Suite 7, Los Angeles, CA 90014
Tel.: (323) 526-5817; Fax: (323) 526-2895
Executive Director, Robert Sainz: rsainz@cdd.laity.org
Web site: <http://www.cityofla.org/cdd/yo>

Mission and Vision

The Los Angeles Youth Opportunity Movement will be recognized as the premier youth development program enhancing and enriching youth, their families and their communities to achieve self-sufficiency. By providing and nurturing the essential motivation, beliefs, life skills and educational and social tools needed to become successful and independent, and by establishing effective community partnerships, and bridging resources through a system of excellence that will maximize the talents and potential of every individual.

Program Overview

In partnership with over 40 local community-based organizations, the Los Angeles Youth Opportunity Movement is developing a vocational, educational, career, and social support system that emphasizes the talents and capacities of the community's youth and families. The YOM will significantly strengthen the current service delivery to increase the area's high school graduation rate, college enrollment rate, and long-term unsubsidized employment for our members.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES

- Operating 12 YO training and service sites throughout the Boyle Heights and Watts Empowerment Zones.
- Utilizing 24 contract partners and 30 other public and private partners in Watts and Boyle Heights communities.
- Established the YO GOLD CARD system with the support of 18 local businesses.
- Outreached to over 3000 youth, processed over 2600 eligible participants, and referred over 350 to the WIA providers.
- Received the City of Los Angeles Quality and Productivity Award for 2002.
- Received approval for \$7.5 million dollars for the development of the Boyle Heights Youth technology Center.
- Held grand opening for the Watts Youth Opportunity Center.
- Received \$600,000 in WIA funds to establish a YO Center in the San Fernando Valley commencing July 1, 2002.

KEY PARTNERS/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **Los Angeles Unified School District** – East LA Skills Center and East Los Angeles Occupational Center provides educational and support services to a large number of YO clients.
- **LA Unified School District, LA Convention Center, UPS**, and a host of private businesses have hired YO Youth.
- **Los Angeles Conservation Corps** provides an alternative high school, job readiness, job training and GED training.
- **Los Angeles Housing Authority** provides in-kind space and resources at four housing development sites.
- **Southwest College and East Los Angeles College** provides educational support and tutoring and houses a YO staff on-site. ELAC, UCLA, and YO will be hosting a Summer Immersion Program at UCLA this summer for 90 YO and RYA participants.
- Additional 20 community-based contracted partners including **LA Family Development Networks and Community Build**.